



General Assembly

February Session, 2000

Amendment

LCO No. 3806

Offered by:

REP. ROY, 119th Dist.
REP. FELTMAN, 6th Dist.
REP. FONTANA, 87th Dist

REP. DICKMAN, 132nd Dist.
REP. MILLER, 122nd Dist.
REP. KEELEY, 125th Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 426

File No. 258

Cal. No. 477

"An Act Concerning Child Safety In Motor Vehicles."

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- 1 After line 40, insert the following:
- 2 "Sec. 3. (NEW) (a) No person shall operate a motor vehicle upon any
- 3 public highway while using a hand-held cellular telephone.
- 4 (b) The provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall not apply to:
- 5 (1) An operator who is alone and reasonably fears for his or her
- 6 safety or reasonably believes that a criminal act may be perpetrated
- 7 against him or her;
- 8 (2) An operator who uses such hand-held cellular telephone to
- 9 contact an emergency 911 system to report what the operator
- 10 reasonably believes is an emergency or the commission of a crime or
- 11 motor vehicle violation;
- 12 ((3) An operator of a school bus with passengers who uses such
- 13 hand-held cellular telephone to call for assistance when the school bus

14 experiences a mechanical breakdown or an emergency arises that
15 endangers the operator or the passengers;

16 (4) A police or peace officer or firefighter or an operator of an
17 ambulance, emergency defense vehicle, hazard vehicle, hazardous
18 materials emergency vehicle, bus, school bus without passengers, taxi
19 cab or tow truck who uses such hand-held cellular telephone while
20 acting in the performance of his or her duties and within the scope of
21 his or her employment;

22 (5) A passenger, other than the operator, of a motor vehicle.

23 (c) Violation of any provision of this section shall be an infraction.

24 Sec. 4. (NEW) On and after January 1, 2001, all hand-held cellular
25 telephones sold, leased or rented in this state shall carry a notice
26 affixed to such telephone stating that the use of such telephone while
27 operating a vehicle is prohibited except as authorized by section 3 of
28 this act.

29 Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 14-108a of the general statutes, as
30 amended by section 12 of public act 99-181, is repealed and the
31 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

32 (b) In each motor vehicle accident in which any person is killed or
33 injured or in which damage to the property of any one individual,
34 including the operator, in excess of one thousand dollars is sustained,
35 the police officer, agency or individual who, in the regular course of
36 duty, investigates such accident, either at the time of or at the scene of
37 the accident or thereafter, by interviewing the participants or
38 witnesses, shall, within five days after completing such investigation,
39 complete and forward one copy of such report to the Commissioner of
40 Transportation. Such report shall call for and contain all available
41 detailed information to disclose the location and cause of the accident,
42 the conditions then existing, the persons and vehicles involved, [and]
43 the names of the insurance companies issuing their automobile liability
44 policies, [as well as] whether any hand-held cellular telephone was

45 present in any vehicle involved in the accident and whether the use of
46 any such cellular telephone contributed to causing the accident, and
47 the enforcement action taken. The Commissioner of Transportation
48 shall forward to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles one copy of each
49 report of any accident involving a school bus. The Commissioner of
50 Motor Vehicles may inquire into or investigate any accident reported
51 pursuant to this subsection and may request the assistance of the
52 Division of State Police within the Department of Public Safety for
53 such purposes."